PATENT

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

(MBHB Case No. 00-176-D)

| In the A | pplication of: |) | |
|----------|---|-------------------------------------|--|
| | Loren J. Veltrop |) Art Unit: 1761 | |
| Serial N | lo.: 10/080,872 |) | |
| Filed: | February 22, 2002 |) Examiner: Drew E. Becker) | |
| For: | Apparatus and Method for Maintaining Cooked Food in a Ready-to-Serve Condition Using a Freestanding Cover For Food Trays |))) | |

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

In regard to the above-identified patent application:

- 1. We are transmitting herewith the attached:
 - A. Response to Office Action Mailed November 4, 2003;
 - B. Return Receipt Postcard.
- 2. GENERAL AUTHORIZATION: Please charge any additional fees or credit over-payments to the Deposit Account No. 13-2490. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10: The undersigned hereby certifies that this Transmittal 3. Letter and papers, as described in paragraph 1 hereinabove, are being deposited with the United States Postal Service, Express Mail No. 333555434, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on January 30, 2004.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dated: January 30, 2004

Richard A. Machonkin Registration No. 41,962



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| | | ood Trays |) | |
| Comn P.O. I | nissione Box 145 | | | |
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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED NOVEMBER 4, 2003

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed November 4, 2003, please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.